

# Screening

## Suicide Risk

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force  
1996

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**Recommendation** <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstf/uspssuic.htm>

There is insufficient evidence to recommend for or against routine screening by primary care clinicians to detect suicide risk in asymptomatic persons.

Clinicians should be alert to signs of suicidal ideation in persons with established risk factors.

Clinicians should be alert to signs and symptoms of depression and should routinely ask patients about their use of alcohol and other drugs.

The training of primary care clinicians in recognizing and treating affective disorders is recommended.

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[Guide to Clinical Preventive Services, 2nd Edition](#)  
[Screening for Suicide Risk, 1996](#)

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